

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 DRC-01 RSC-01 H-01 /019 W

----- 054052

R 082030Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO USDA FAS W

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4539

UNCLAS CARACAS 06210

FROM: ACTING AGATT FOR: HUME/FAS

TOFAS 39.

SUBJ: VENEZUELAN PURCHASE OF U.S. CATTLE

REF: FASTO 30

1. IN RESPONSE TO PERSONAL TELEPHONE CALL FROM CONGRESSMAN ROBERT PRICE, TEXAS TO AMBASSADOR AND REFERENCED FASTO, SEVERAL OFFICIALS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS CONTACTED TO DETERMINE POSSIBILITY OF VENEZUELAN PURCHASE OF 40-60 ,000 HEAD U.S. CATTLE. RESPONSES WERE UNANIMOUS IN THAT NO ONE INDICATED AWARENESS OF REPORTED GOVERNMENT PURCHASE OF U.S. CATTLE. AS WELL, NONE OF INDIVIDUALS KNOWS OR HAS HEARD OF SR. EDGAR TUDELA OR SR. J.T. SANCHEZ.

2. INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED CONSIDERED APPROPRIATELY HIGH AND KNOWLEDGEABLE SO THAT NO DEAL OF THE SIZE MENTIONED SHOULD ESCAPE THEIR ATTENTION. OFFICE OF ANIMAL HEALTH IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, RESPONSIBLE FOR ISSUING SANITARY PERMITS FOR LIVE ANIMALS, ALSO DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF REPORTED PURCHASE.

3. VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH COSTA RICA AND COLOMBIA TO PURCHASE LARGE BUT UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF LIVE CATTLE. THIS IS ONE MEANS BEING CONSIDERED TO PROVIDE RELATIVELY NORMAL SUPPLIES OF BEEF IN COUNTRY.

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HOWEVER, CONTACTS BELIEVE THAT PRICES AND CONSIDERATIONS

OF TRANSPORTING 40-60,000 HEAD OF LIVE CATTLE  
FROM THE U.S. WOULD MAKE LIKELIHOOD OF REPORTED PURCHASE  
VERY SLIGHT.

4. IF ANYTHING DEVELOPS ON THIS END THAT SHEDS LIGHT ON  
REPORTED TRANSACTION, WILL INFORM YOU IMMEDIATELY.  
PLEASE INFORM CONGRESSMAN PRICE.  
MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CATTLE, SALES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** FASTO 30  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinml  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 OCT 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2003 by martinml>  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VENEZUELAN PURCHASE OF U.S. CATTLE  
**TAGS:** EAGR, VE, US  
**To:** AGR  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005